

**EVACUEE****NEWSLETTER**

Number 4

Naval Air Station Meridian

September 4, 2005

**FEMA, Others respond to Katrina**

WASHINGTON - Baby formula, communications equipment, medical teams, generators, water and ice are already in place for the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

As the Category 4 storm surged ashore just east of New Orleans on Monday, the Federal Emergency Management Agency had medical teams, rescue squads and groups prepared to supply food and water poised in a semicircle around the city, said agency Director Michael Brown.

Brown said the evacuation of the city and the general emergency response were working as planned in an exercise a year ago. "I was impressed with the evacuation, once it was ordered it was very smooth," he said. With the storm moving north, Brown said he expects to see flooding in Tennessee and the Ohio Valley.

The American Red Cross said it had thousands of volunteers mobilized for what is the "largest single mobilization that we've done for any single natural disaster," said spokesman Bradley Hague. The organization set up operational headquarters in Baton Rouge, just upriver from New Orleans.

With its partners - local churches and community organizations - the Red Cross said it expected to serve

about 500,000 meals a day to those displaced by the hurricane.

Brown said that his agency had planned for this kind of disaster for years because New Orleans is below sea level, making it extremely vulnerable to flooding.

In other storm-related moves:

- The Environmental Protection Agency dispatched emergency crews to Louisiana and Texas, because of concern about oil and chemical spills. The agency has set up facilities for checking on the damage, but won't be able to quickly assess the region's needs until it can safely send more people into the field.

Sam Coleman, a regional director for EPA's Superfund toxic waste division in Dallas, said an employee standing by in Baton Rouge will oversee the agency's after-storm review of petrochemical, wastewater treatment and drinking water plants.

- The Coast Guard closed ports and waterways along the Gulf Coast and evacuated its own personnel and equipment.

More than 40 Coast Guard aircraft from units along the entire eastern seaboard, along with more than 30

watercraft were positioned around the area to be ready to conduct post-hurricane search and rescue operations and to do waterway damage checks and begin any needed repairs.

The Agriculture Department said it will provide meals and other commodities, such as infant formula, distilled water for babies and emergency food stamps, through its Food and Nutrition Service.

Also, the Forest Service has an incident command team that will coordinate with FEMA and the Red Cross.

- The Federal Aviation Administration said airports were closed in New Orleans and Baton Rouge; Biloxi, Miss.; Mobile, Ala.; Pensacola, Fla. and at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida. Airlines have moved their equipment away from the stricken areas and canceled all flights, FAA spokeswoman Laura Brown said.

- The Defense Department dispatched emergency coordinators to Alabama, Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi to provide a wide range of assistance including communications equipment, search and rescue operations, medical teams and other emergency supplies.

**Notes of interest for Hurricane evacuees****Sunday Church Services at NAS Community Chapel**

Protestant Sunday School: 9 a.m.

Protestant Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Catholic Mass: 5 p.m.

**NAS Community Chapel Weekday Activities**

Wednesday Prayer Luncheon: 11:15 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.

LDS Family Evening: 6 p.m.

**Various Hours of Operation for on-base facilities**

NEX: M-F, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun, 12:30-5 p.m.

Gas Station: 7 a.m.-7 p.m. daily -- no after hours sales

Country Store: 9 a.m.-9 p.m. daily

Commissary: Sept. 4, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Tues-Sat, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

NFCU: Sept. 3-5, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; M-F, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Citizen's Natl Bank: M-Th, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Fri, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society**

The office is up and running in Bldg. 266, next door to the Fleet and Family Support Center.

Hours of operation are Mon, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Tue-Fri, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Services can be provided for active duty and retired Navy personnel and their families, and for all service personnel and their families. Services for reservists with less than 30 days' active duty are authorized until Thursday.

If you would like to make a donation to NMCRS to support Hurricane Katrina relief efforts, go to [www.nmcrs.org](http://www.nmcrs.org) and click on the Hurricane Katrina link. One hundred percent of your donation will go to support military families.

**Pharmacies**

Winn Dixie: Closest to the base, 12 miles south of base along Hwy 39 on SE corner of Hwy 39 and North Hills Street (first light when traveling south on Hwy 39) -- on left when heading south. Open M-F, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sat, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Phone: 601-485-0818

Mr. Discount Pharmacy: Next the hospitals in downtown Meridian. Go south on Hwy 39 and as road forks, stay to the right and veer right as road forks again onto 14th St. Pharmacy is on left, across from Jeff Anderson Medical Center. Open every day from 8 a.m. until midnight. Phone: 601-693-1978

**Hospitals**

All three hospitals are with one to two block of each other in downtown Meridian -- travel south on Hwy 39 and as the highway moves back into the city, it will fork at one point and you will veer to the right fork. In approximately six blocks it will fork again, and you will veer off to the right and take a right onto 14th St. Anderson is on the right and Rush on the left. Riley is behind Rush on Constitution Ave. and 12th St. Phone: Anderson, 601-553-6111; Riley, 601-484-3357; Rush, 601-703-9260

**TRICARE Authorization Number**

1-800-444-5445. If you have an emergency and need to be seen at an ER, you will need to contact your PCM after you return home to have a consult placed for authorization of that visit. Only your PCM can place those consults for you.

**Notes of interest, 2**



## Military Points of Contact

### Navy

**Bureau of Naval Personnel Hurricane Katrina Help Line: 1- 877-414-5358**

**Navy Personnel MUST call 1-877-414-5358 to get paid and to muster!**

Update, 1 Sept. 2005: Navy military or civilians who are unable to contact their chain of command to report their status should call this number.

The Navy is sincerely concerned for our Sailors and their family members in the areas affected by Hurricane Katrina. In light of the communications difficulties created by the hurricane, Navy Personnel Command has set up a 24 hour help line for both Sailors and their family members to call for information regarding their loved ones: **The number for Active Duty, Reservists and their dependents is 1-877-414-5358, and the number for Government Civilians and their dependents is 1-877-689-2722.** These lines are staffed 24x7 by active duty Navy personnel and will have connectivity with Navy, FEMA and other government agencies. They will try their very best to answer questions regarding the status of Navy family members, but please be aware that communication in the region is still very challenging and in some cases impossible at this point.

**NAVSEA Special Announcement:** All Naval Sea Systems Command and SUPSHIP Gulf Coast employees in the Gulf Coast hurricane zone are requested to call 202-781-3889 to verify their whereabouts and contact information. They may also provide contact information via e-mail at [commandcenter@navsea.navy.mil](mailto:commandcenter@navsea.navy.mil).

### **ALFLTFORCOM MESSAGE: NAVY MILPERS, CIVPERS AND FAMILY MEMBER MUSTER**

#### Army

**Military Families and Deployed Soldiers** affected by the hurricane are asked to call the **National Guard Bureau Family Program Hotline** at 1-888-777-7731 to let family members know of their whereabouts.

Deployed soldiers may call as well to request information. Website: [www.guardfamily.org](http://www.guardfamily.org)

NGB has been assigned the Family Support mission and First Army has been assigned the Logistical Support Mission.

**MSARNG - Emergency Operations Center - 24 hours - 1-888-288-898**

**Camp Shelby Family Programs Staff - 24 hours - Commercial 601-558-2284 or DSN 286-2284**

Anyone in need of **counseling services** as a result of the hurricane call call **Military OneSource** at 1-800-342-9647

**Army Recruiting Command's Operations Center - 24 hours - 1-800-223-3735.** Voice will ask for the extension you wish to reach. This is 6-0823 or 6-0824 (voice will tell you that you must use the 6)

#### Air Force

**Family Hotline - 1-800-435-9941**

#### Marine Corps

**Community Services Information and Referral:**

East of the Mississippi River (minus Wisconsin) is served by Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va. The phone number is 1-800-336-4663

West of the Mississippi River (plus Wisconsin) is served by Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Ca. The phone number is 1-800-253-1624

## Family Assistance Centers Points of Contact

The Navy and the National Guard have an agreement that we will support each other's families

### Mississippi Family Assistance Centers

Armory

HQ, 1/198th AR, PO Box 158  
Amory, MS 38821-0158

Ph: (662) 256-7683

Biloxi

CO C(-) 1/155 (M) 377 Hiller Drive

Ph: (228) 388-3233

|              |   |                    |
|--------------|---|--------------------|
|              | Biloxi, MS 39531-3205   |                    |
| Greenwood    | HQ 1/114 FA, PO Box 901<br>Greenwood, MS 38935-0901                   | Ph: (662) 453-8359 |
| Grrenada     | Cp McCain Tng Site, 3152 James H. Biddy Rd.<br>Grenada, MS 38901-8973 | Ph: (662) 294-0070 |
| Hattiesburg  | ARNG Training Site, Camp Shelby<br>Hattiesburg, MS 39407-5500         | Ph: (601) 558-2883 |
| Jackson (HQ) | 1410 Riverside Drive<br>Jackson, MS 39216                             | Ph: (877) 474-6522 |
| McComb       | HQ 1/155 Inf (M), 319 W. Avenue North<br>McComb, MS 39648-2813        | Ph: (601) 684-0554 |
| Meridan      | HQ 150th Engr Br, 1551 65th Avenue N.<br>Meridan, MS 39307-7024       | Ph: (601) 553-3195 |
| Monticello   | HQ, 106th SPT BN, PO Box 519<br>Monticello, MS 39654-0519             | Ph: (601) 587-1039 |
| Senatobia    | HQ, 2/198th AR, PO Box 278<br>Senatobia, MS 38668-0278                | Ph: (662) 562-6920 |
| Starkville   | PO Box 1366   | Ph: (662) 323-5929 |